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volume as the amount of space that a body occupies, and of mass as the quantity of matter that a body contains, are then introduced. These are followed by definitions of porosity, elasticity, impenetrability, indestructibility. The next chapter continues the determination of the properties of things about us without experiments by defining hardness, tenacity, ductility, malleability, and momentum. After a brief discussion of abstract motion and force, we are introduced to Newton's laws of motion because they "fully explain the effect of force in producing a change in the condition of rest or of motion of bodies." On p. 11 the diagram illustrating the capillarity of mercury is incorrect, the mercury having momentarily forgotten itself and risen in a capillary tube above its level in the outer vessel.

The subject of heat is introduced as follows: "The molecules of which a body is composed are believed to be in a state of more or less rapid motion. The velocity of the molecules of a body increases as its temperature rises; when the velocity of the molecules decreases, the temperature falls." Since the book thus fails to realize the method of presentation which we prefer, we can only recommend it to those who like the other method, for, as Lincoln used to say, "For those who like that sort of a thing, that's the sort of thing they like."

The *Introduction to Physical Science* of Mr. Gage is too well known to need description. The new edition has been embellished with photographs of some of the leaders in science. While we recognize cordially the important use which Mr. Gage's books have performed in introducing laboratory work into schools, we find ourselves not altogether in sympathy with the method of presentation. In presenting electricity he begins with an experiment, while the first thing we learn in light is the fact that there are two widely different theories as to the nature of light and that we have to believe in an ether which fills all space, etc. Of course, we prefer the treatment given the electricity.

As we remarked at the outset, these five new texts form an interesting subject of study. The first two are the product of the far West, and in them the idea of teaching so that method of thinking is the first purpose is openly avowed. Mr. Twiss, who works in Cleveland, has also adopted, though perhaps less openly, the newer method. And, finally, the two books from Boston still cling to the older idea of using physics for the egotistic purpose of teaching its own laws only.

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A Short History of Germany. By ERNEST F. HENDERSON. Vol. I, pp. viii + 517; Vol. II, pp. 471. New York: The Macmillan Co., 1902.

THE author of this work is a practiced hand in historical writing and therefore needs no introduction to the public. He disarms criticism by calling his work "short," somewhat of a misnomer for a two-volumed history, and in his preface he does some special pleading for his points of view. In these days of specialization, perspective is more than likely to be lost, which would seem true of the importance our author attaches to the Holy Roman empire. For at least half of the time when it was supposed to be a factor in the destinies of Europe it was but a name, and one of no very good repute. Luther and the Reformation he stood for were of greater importance, but his influence was not so potent in the religious controversies of western Europe as was that of the French reformers, notwithstanding the author's "surely." The influ-

ence of Emperor Charles V. was almost ephemeral. Indeed, up to the seventeenth century Germany plays a very unimportant part in the affairs of Europe, and her territory was used as the theater of mighty struggles which affected her very little. In the seventeenth century we have the Thirty Years' War, which put Germany back for about one hundred and fifty years while France was forging ahead. The peace of Westphalia, which brought the disastrous war to a close, struck a terrible blow to German unity by leaving each petty prince totally independent. The only bright spot, if we may indeed call it such, was the work of the Kurfürst of Brandenburg in quietly laying the foundations for the continual and steady growth of Brandenburg Prussia, which has had its culmination in the present German empire with Prussia as overlord. The eighteenth century was a period of more rapid recovery, especially the latter part. Here we have the striking example of a great literature being produced which was to make very powerfully for that very unity which politicians were doing their best to render impossible. Frederick the Great is, of course, the great figure in the state, but it was the great authors of Germany who, by writing for all Germany, really inspired the youth with new and progressive ideas. In the nineteenth century, the democratic age of Germany, the greatest figure is not Emperor William I., but the "iron chancellor," the mighty Bismarck.

The arrangement of the chronological tables is not very happy, with so many dates incorporated in a running text. There are no genealogical tables, nor even such a handy list of German emperors with dates as is to be found in Lewis. This would be of great assistance to students, especially in the days of the Saxons, Hohenstaufens, and indeed up to the eighteenth century. The reference to the German school atlas should be Putzger, not Putzke. Incidentally it might be remarked that the German maps are far better than those in this history.

The opening chapter of the work is a very brief account of the early Germans, but of course, as the history is "short," we cannot object. But after this the author reaches a field he has worked over before and we get a good account of the development of the German empire and of the contest between the papacy and the emperors. His lists of authorities are often very meager, so that, if we might suggest any improvement, we should like them put in a full appendix and quoted chapter by chapter. The first volume has to do with Germany in a long state of flux, and it is, therefore, small wonder that the reader is sometimes at a loss as to what is meant by "Saxony," "Burgundy," and the like. A few more clear-cut maps would help over the difficulty. The second volume naturally has to do with Brandenburg-Prussia, and is more satisfactory, even if in some cases "short." Altogether the book will meet a long-felt want as being the best English and up-to-date history of Germany, and will be found, very generally, quite reliable.

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